

# **WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION**

## **CHAPTER 18**

### **PHEASANT HUNTING SEASONS**

**Section 1. Authority.** This regulation is promulgated by authority of W.S. §23-1-302 and §23-2-105(d).

**Section 2. Hunting Seasons Established.** There shall be open seasons for the hunting of pheasants as set forth in this Chapter, and in accordance with Chapter 2, General Hunting Regulation. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

**Section 3. Definitions.** For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

- (a) "Adult" means a person eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- (b) "Daily bag limit" means the maximum number of pheasants that may be legally taken in a single day.
- (c) "Nontoxic shot" means steel or any other federally-approved nontoxic shot.
- (d) "Possession limit" means the maximum number of pheasants that may be legally in possession. Pheasants in transit or storage shall be considered in possession.
- (e) "Season bag limit" means the total number of pheasants that may be legally taken from a particular hunt area during an entire season.
- (f) "Youth" means any person who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) on or before October 1 of the application year.

#### **Section 4. Hunting Regulations.**

(a) **Bag and Possession Limit.** Only one (1) daily bag limit may be taken per day regardless of the number of hunt areas hunted in a single day. When hunting more than one (1) hunt area, a person's daily and possession limits shall be equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest daily and possession limits prescribed for any one (1) of the specified hunt areas in which the hunting and possession occurs.

(b) **Evidence of Sex and Species.** Evidence of sex and species shall be retained on each pheasant harvested. The feathered head, feathered wing, or foot shall remain naturally attached to the carcass of the pheasant in the field and during transportation.

(c) **Nontoxic Shot.** Nontoxic shot shall be required for hunting pheasants on all of the lands in the Springer and Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Areas and on all national wildlife refuges open for hunting. No person shall possess shot shells loaded with shot other than nontoxic shot while hunting pheasants on all lands in the Springer and Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Areas, and on national wildlife refuges.

(d) **Required Clothing.** Any person hunting pheasants within the boundaries of any Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Wildlife Habitat Management Area, or on Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal lands bordering and including Glendo State Park, shall wear in a visible manner at least one (1) outer garment of fluorescent orange color which shall include a hat, shirt, jacket, coat, vest, or sweater.

(e) Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Bag Limit, Limitations and Shooting Hours.

Hunt Area	Dates of Seasons		Bag Limit		Limitations	Shooting Hours	
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Possession		Start	End
1	Nov. 2	Dec. 31	3	9	Male pheasant only	½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset
2	Nov. 2	Dec. 1	2	6	Any pheasant (Youth Hunt-Refer to Section 8)	8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
	Dec. 2	Dec. 31	2	6	Male pheasant only	8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
5	Nov. 2	Dec. 31	3	9	Male pheasant only except that portion of Area 5 north of the Shoshone River and west of the Yellowtail Reservoir shall be open for any pheasant (Youth Hunt-Refer to Section 8)	Veterans Day (State Observed Holiday), Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and Weekend Days ½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset
						Week Days 11:00 a.m.	Sunset
7	Nov. 2	Dec. 31	3	9	Male pheasant only except that portion of Area 7 in Platte and Laramie Counties shall be open for any pheasant	½ hour before Sunrise  Table Mountain WHMA  ½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset  4:00 p.m.
8	Oct. 17	Nov. 1	3	Season Limit 3	Any pheasant (Springer permits) Refer to Section 6	8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
	Nov. 2	Nov. 21	3	9	Any pheasant	8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
9	Nov. 2	Dec. 31	3	9	Any pheasant (Glendo permits) Refer to Section 7	8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
11	Nov. 2	Dec. 31	3	9	Any pheasant	½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset

(f) Closed Areas.

(i) The Ocean Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Fremont County shall be closed during the period of December 15 through March 10 to all human presence within one-half (1/2) mile of the aerator on the ice and as marked by signs on Wyoming Game and Fish Commission lands

around the aerator. Wyoming Game and Fish Department administrative access shall be allowed during this period.

(ii) The Downar Bird Farm and Springer Headquarters in Goshen County shall be closed to pheasant hunting as marked by signs.

(iii) Pond Number 1 and adjacent lands on the Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Goshen County, as marked by colored signs and posts, shall be closed to pheasant hunting beginning November 22.

(iv) The Sheridan Bird Farm in Sheridan County shall be closed to pheasant hunting, except during hunts sponsored and supervised by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

**Section 5. Pheasant Special Management Permit.** A pheasant special management permit shall be required of any person, except those exempted in this section, who participates in the hunting of pheasants in those areas listed in subsection (a) of this section. Owners of lands enrolled in the Private Lands/Public Wildlife Walk-In Access program, and members of their immediate families (landowner's spouse, parents, grandparents, or lineal descendants and their spouses) are exempt from the requirement to obtain a pheasant special management permit when they are hunting pheasants on the deeded land of the landowner. The pheasant special management permit shall be in possession of any person while hunting pheasants, and shall be immediately produced for inspection upon request from any authorized Department representative. Any person purchasing a pheasant special management permit for the purpose set forth in this section shall validate the permit by signing that person's name in ink across the face of the permit. Hunters who acquire a pheasant special management permit through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS) shall not be required to meet the signature provision of this section. The permit shall be available at Headquarters, Department Regional Offices and designated license selling agents.

(a) **Special Management Permit Areas.** A pheasant special management permit shall be required to hunt pheasants in the areas listed in this subsection:

(i) Bud Love Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Johnson County.

(ii) Glendo State Park, including all Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal lands bordering the Park and the adjoining Department Private Lands/Public Wildlife Walk-in Area in Platte County.

(iii) Ocean Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Fremont County.

(iv) Springer Wildlife Habitat Management Area, including all the lands administered by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission surrounding Bump-Sullivan and Springer reservoirs in Goshen County.

(v) Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Goshen County.

(vi) Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area, excluding any private lands included within the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area, in Bighorn County.

(vii) All lands in the Sand Mesa Wildlife Habitat Management Area east of the Bass Lake Road in Fremont County.

(viii) All lands opened to the hunting of pheasants that are enrolled in the Department's Private Lands/Public Wildlife Walk-in Access Program, excluding Walk-In Access Areas in Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park and Washakie Counties on which pheasants are not released by the Department.

(ix) All State lands in Johnson and Sheridan Counties.

**Section 6. Springer Permit Pheasant Season.** In order to participate in this season, a person shall possess and present upon request a valid Springer permit, a valid bird license and conservation stamp (unless otherwise exempted by state statute) and a pheasant special management permit. Persons born on or after January 1, 1966, shall possess and present upon request a hunter safety certificate. The Springer permit shall only be valid for the day printed on the permit by the Department. There shall be a Springer permit pheasant season in Hunt Area 8 beginning October 17 through November 1.

(a) Application for Springer Permits. Completed applications shall be submitted to the Cheyenne Office of the Department on proper application forms beginning August 15. Applications shall be accepted until 5:00 p.m. September 15. A drawing shall be utilized to determine successful applicants. Only youths may apply for Springer permits for youth only hunt days as set forth in Section 6 (c) of this Chapter. A drawing shall be utilized to determine successful applicants. A person shall only submit a single application. Successful applicants shall be notified by mail of their hunting date and furnished a set of special instructions.

(b) Issuance of Springer Permits. A maximum of one hundred twenty (120) permits shall be issued to successful applicants in the drawing for each day of the Springer permit pheasant season. A maximum of one hundred twenty (120) hunters shall be allowed to hunt at any one time during the Springer permit pheasant season. When a hunter checks out of the Springer Check Station, the Department may issue a permit to another person at the check station. If all one hundred twenty (120) permits for a single day have not been issued by the Department, or if the check station attendants are advised that a permitted hunter will not participate, the Department may issue a permit to another person at the check station on a first-come, first-served basis, not to exceed a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) permitted hunters. Permitted hunters may begin hunting at 8 a.m. Hunters who are issued permits through the drawing must check in at the check station by 9:00 a.m. on the date their permit is valid. Permits that are unclaimed after 9:00 a.m. shall be issued to other hunters on a first-come, first-served basis.

(c) Youth Only Hunt Days. Only youths shall be allowed to take pheasants on the youth hunt days. Youths under the age of fourteen (14) shall be accompanied by an adult. No adult shall take any pheasant during the youth only hunt days. The youth only hunt days are October 19 and October 27.

(d) Springer Check Station. The Springer Check Station is located one and one-quarter (1-1/4) miles west of U.S. Highway 85 on the south boundary of the Springer Wildlife Habitat Management Area. The hours of operation of the check station shall be from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily during the Springer permit pheasant season. Persons participating in the Springer permit pheasant season shall check in at the check station prior to hunting. Prior to leaving the Springer permit pheasant area, each hunter shall check out at the check station by 4:30 p.m. on the same day that the hunter registered and shall accurately report all harvested pheasants and return all special hunt materials to the check station.

(e) Parking Assignment. Parking lot assignments and tags shall be issued by the Department for each vehicle utilized by hunters. Parking lot tags shall be displayed in a visible manner in each vehicle. All vehicles shall be parked in assigned parking lots.

**Section 7. Glendo Permit Pheasant Season.** Glendo permits shall be required to hunt pheasants in Hunt Area 9 on each Friday, Saturday and Monday during the open season in November. Glendo permits are not required to hunt pheasants in Hunt Area 9 on other days during the open season. A person shall possess and present upon request a valid Glendo permit (on those days required), a valid bird license and conservation stamp (unless otherwise exempted by state statute), a pheasant special management permit and for hunters born on or after January 1, 1966, a hunter safety certificate.

(a) Youth Only Hunt Days. Youth only hunt days shall be November 3, 10, 17 and 24. Only youths shall be allowed to take pheasants on youth hunt days. Youths under the age of fourteen (14) shall

be accompanied by an adult. No adult shall take any pheasant during the youth only hunt days. No Glendo permit is required for youths to hunt on youth only hunt days.

(b) **Application for Glendo Permits.** Completed applications shall be submitted to the Cheyenne Office of the Department on proper application forms beginning August 15. Applications shall be accepted until 5:00 p.m. September 15. A drawing shall be utilized to determine successful applicants. A person shall only submit a single application. No person shall apply for and receive more than one (1) Glendo permit in a calendar year. Successful applicants shall be notified by mail of their hunting date and furnished a set of special instructions.

(c) **Issuance of Glendo Permits.** A maximum of sixty (60) permits shall be issued in the drawing for each day a permit is required. The Glendo permit shall only be valid for the day printed on the permit by the Department.

**Section 8. Sand Mesa and Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Areas Youth Hunt.** The youth only hunt day is November 16. Only youths shall be allowed to take pheasants on this date. Youths under the age of fourteen (14) shall be accompanied by an adult. No adults shall take any pheasant during the youth only hunt day, except as provided in this section. The youth hunt shall take place on all lands included in the Sand Mesa Wildlife Habitat Area east of the Bass Lake Road, and all lands included in the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Area north of the Shoshone River.

#### **Section 9. Archery Regulations.**

(a) **General Seasons.** Pheasants may be taken with archery equipment in accordance with Section 4 of this Chapter.

#### **Section 10. Falconry Seasons.**

(a) Pheasants may be taken with falcons in accordance with Section 4 of this Chapter. Persons hunting with falcons may take any pheasant.

(b) The falconry season shall open September 1 and close March 1 in those hunt areas listed in Section 4 of this Chapter, except as otherwise provided in subsection 4(f) and subsection 10(c) of this Chapter.

(c) **Closed Areas.**

<b>Hunt Area</b>	<b>Limitations</b>
8, 9	Closed to falconry hunting

#### **Section 11. Hunt Area Descriptions.**

(a) **Area and Number.**

**Area 1.** All of Fremont County, excluding the Ocean Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area surrounding Ocean Lake and excluding the Sand Mesa Wildlife Habitat Management Area east of the Bass Lake Road. All of Sheridan, Johnson, Park, Washakie and Hot Springs Counties, and all of Big Horn County excluding lands in the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area north of U.S. Highway 14A.

**Area 2.** All lands included in the Ocean Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area surrounding Ocean Lake and all lands included in the Sand Mesa Wildlife Habitat Management Area east of the Bass Lake Road.

**Area 5.** All of the lands included in the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area north of U.S. Highway 14A.

**Area 7.** All of Goshen and Platte Counties and that portion of Laramie County east of U.S. Highway 85, excluding Hunt Areas 8 and 9.

**Area 8.** All of the lands included in the Springer/Bump-Sullivan Wildlife Habitat Management Area.

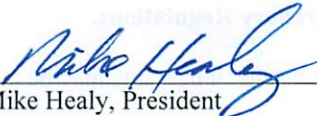
**Area 9.** All Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal lands bordering and including Glendo State Park and the adjoining Department Private Lands/Public Wildlife Walk-in Area.

**Area 11.** The entire State of Wyoming excluding the lands described in Areas 1, 2, 5, 7, 8 and 9.

**Section 12. Savings Clause.** If any provision of this regulation shall be held to be illegal or unconstitutional, such a ruling shall not affect other provisions of this regulation which can be given effect without the illegal or unconstitutional provision; and, to this end, the provisions of this regulation shall be severable.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

By:

  
Mike Healy, President

Dated: April 25, 2013